

Message Text

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ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 IO-10 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /058 W

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R 272154Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9632

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU

SUBJECT: ICFTU CONGRESS - MEXICO

REF: BRUSSELS 07501

1. ORIT OFFICER UNAWARE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED WORKING GROUP MEETING OCT 11-12. ORIT OFFICE NOT BEING CONSULTED ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. RAFAEL CAMACHO, MEXICAN PRESIDENT OF ORIT AND SECRETARY INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF CTM RESPONSIBLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONGRESS BUT HE NOT COMMUNICATING WITH ORIT OFFICE. NOTHING SHOULD BE READ INTO THIS. CAMACHO HAS REPUTATION AS POOR ADMINISTRATOR PLUS RUMOR THAT GOM IS SPENDING BETWEEN TWENTY-FOUR TO THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND US DOLLARS ON CONGRESS EXPENSES WHICH CAMACHO PROBABLY HANDLING VERY PRIVATELY.

2. ORIT OFFICER SAID LATEST PLANS CALL FOR ORIT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OCT 13-14 FOLLOWED BY ICFTU EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OCT 15-16 FOLLOWED BY INAUGURATION OF
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CONGRESS IN MEDICAL CENTER INTERNATIONAL AUDITORIUM ON

OCT 17. ORIT INSTITUTE IN CUERNAVACA CONSIDERED TOO SMALL FOR EXPECTED PARTICIPATION OF SIX HUNDRED DELEGATES AND ASSISTANTS PLUS OBSERVERS. SAME ORIT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ORIGINAL PLANS INCLUDED AN AUGUST MEETING OF ICFTU WORKING GROUP IN MEXICO CITY FOLLOWED BY VISITS TO SEVERAL MAJOR LA CAPITALS PLUS A MEETING IN WASHINGTON WITH AFL-CIO. THIS PLAN EVIDENTLY SCRAPPED BY ICFTU FOR UNKNOWN REASONS. ADDITIONAL UNCONFIRMED INFORMATION RECEIVED BY LABATT THAT JULIO ECHEVERRY, SEC GEN OF ORIT, NOT ON ICFTU CONGRESS INAUGURATION AGENDA. (COMMENT: THIS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS INSULT BY ECHEVERRY AND PERHAPS BY OTHER LA LABOR LEADERS.)

3. FIDEL VELAZQUEZ REPORTEDLY HAS NOT CHANGED POSITION ON INSISTING THAT ANY REORGANIZATION OF ORIT MUST TAKE PLACE WITHIN ORIT'S CONSTITUTIONAL GUIDELINES AND NOT AS MANDATE FOR ICFTU . LATIN AMERICAN LABOR LEADERS CAN BE EXPECTED TO OBJECT TO ANY ATTEMPT ON PART OF EUROPEANS TO ASSERT CONSTITUTIONAL CONTROL OVER ORIT OR SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION ACCORDING TO ORIT SPOKESMAN.

4. ALSO UNCONFIRMED IS GOM'S OFFER OF \$80,000 US FOR CUERNAVACA TRADE UNION INSTITUTE AS OPPOSED TO ICFTU ASKING PRICE OF \$215,000 US WHICH REPRESENTS UNPAID ICFTU NO INTEREST LOAN TO INSTITUTE MADE SOME YEARS AGO. (COMMENT: GOM MAY WANT INSTITUTE FACILITIES AS PART OF WORKER RECREATIONAL PROGRAM RECENTLY ANNOUNCED BY SECRETARY OF LABOR, MUNOZ-LEDO. DISPOSITION OF INSTITUTE PLUS SUBSTANTIAL OPERATING SUBSIDY PAID BY ICFTU FOR MINIMAL INSTITUTE ACTIVITY MAY CREATE VERY PRIVATE STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MEXICANS AND EUROPEANS DURING CONGRESS. PUBLICLY MEXICANS CAN BE EXPECTED TO PUSH FORWARD PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S BID FOR THIRD WORLD LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT HIS INTEREST IN BECOMING NEXT SECRETARY GENERAL OF UN.
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